MIS-USE of CAPART funds

736. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the funds allocated for rural development to non-Governmental Organisations by CAPART during the last three years have been found to be misused;

(b) if so, the percentage of funds found to be misused;

(c) whether Government propose to review CAPART's functioning and to bring transparency;

(d) if so, the details thereof and other remedial measures to be taken in the matter; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take against the involved NGOs, as also the guilty officials of CAPART?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) The total amount released by CAPART to voluntary organisations upto 31.3.96 is Rs. 278.42 crores out of this, CAPART has indicated that till 31.12.95 approxaimately Rs. 5.84 crores have been released to balck-listed voluntary organisations. Since many of the organisations had satisfactorily completed some of the projects sanctioned to them the amount mis-utilised would be of a much lower order.

(c) and (d) The functioning of CAPART is reviewed from time to time in the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body of CAPART and, wherever considered necessary suitable steps are taken to streamline its functioning. This is continuous process. Recently, with a view to bringing CAPART nearer to the people and to ensure closer inter-action between it and the voluntary organisations, the functioning of CAPART has been decentralized by setting up six Regional Committees at Ahmedabad, Bhubaneshwar, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur and Lucknow. The Regional Committee have been empowered to consider project proposals upto an outlay of Rs. 5 lakhs. It is expected that the decentralization of CAPART would not only result in improving its efficiency and efficacy but would also bring about transparency in its functioning.

(e) In addition to stopping release of further grants to the black-listed organisations by CAPART, the other actions taken/proposed to be taken by CAPART include recovery of funds from the delinquent organisation, initiation of legal proceedings, referring the cases to the police etc. CAPART has also reported that it has referred the cases of 61 organisations to CBI for further investigations. So far CBI has not reported complicity of any CAPART official.

Requirement of Power in Gujarat by 2000 AD

737. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the over all requirement of power in major cities of Gujarat by 2000 AD;

(b) whether Government propose to formulate any new plan in order to meet the above requirement;

(c) if so, the feature of the plan;

(d) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(e) by when it is likely to become operative in major cities of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) As per the existing methodology, the requirements of power are estimated on the basis of demand of